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Project: **CARE – Accessible Cities of European Regions**

Year **2005**



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CARE: HOW TO BECOME A HOSPITABLE CITY FOR EVERYONE

Early 2004 saw the beginning of Project CARE – Accessible Cities of European Regions – with Emilia-Romagna as lead partner and the initial major results are now being achieved. With European Union funding via the Cadses – Interreg III B programme, Project CARE involves sharing city development strategies transnationally. Universal accessibility in cities is a key to the quality of life and Project CARE is intended to ensure that territorial resources suit all users with special needs. *“Cities able to meet the most difficult of demands will be cities that will work better and be more welcoming for everyone”* just as *“cities able to meet the demands of their residents will also be able to the meet the demands of everyone all the better”*.

Project CARE involves sixteen European institutions as partners and they have been working since 2004 to carry out the directives of the project.

THE MOST COMPLETE RESEARCH IN EUROPE

The research into and analysis of the demands which residents and tourists with special needs make of a host city is fundamentally important. It is the most current and exhaustive European study ever made, involving as it does 6,545 interviews with residents and tourists with special needs. It has emerged that in order for a city to be hospitable people must be cordial and helpful, information must be clear and correct, architectural barriers must be removed, public transport must enjoy greater accessibility and people’s identities must be valorized. Those interested in this research may find it and other information on the project at the e-mail address info@interreg-care.org. Project CARE’s aim for the future is the creation of a network of accessible services and structures between cities in Europe using the same methodology to detect accessibility. A hard task but also an opportunity to create a fine example of civilized living.

**This project is cofunded by the European Union as part of the
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